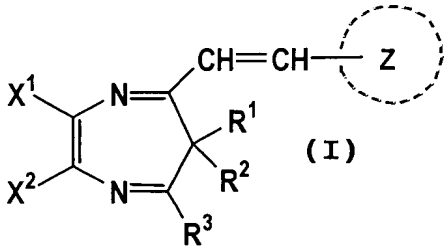
What is claimed is:

1. An azepine compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein X^1 and X^2 are the same or different, each representing an electron attractive group; R^1 and R^2 are the same or different, each representing a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group, and at least one of the groups, R^1 and R^2, is an alkyl group; R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and the ring Z represents a hydrocarbon ring which may have a substituent or a heterocycle which may have a substituent.

2. An azepine compound according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the groups, X^1 and X^2, is a cyano group.

3. An azepine compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is a C_{1-6}alkyl group, and R^2 is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6}alkyl group.

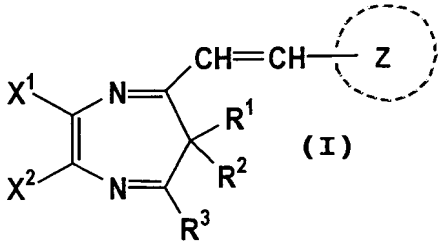
4. An azepine compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6}alkyl group.

5. An azepine compound according to claim 1, wherein the ring Z is an aromatic ring.

6. An azepine compound according to claim 1, wherein the ring Z is a benzene ring which has an electron donative group selected from the group consisting of an amino group, a N-substituted amino group, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, a halogen atom and an alkyl group, on at least one of the positions, o-position and p-position.

7. An azepine compound according to claim 1, which is capable of emitting light by applying a light or an electric field.

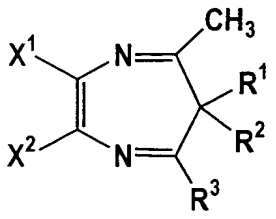
8. A process for producing an azepine compound represented by the following formula (I):



(I)

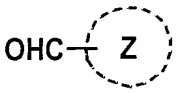
wherein X^1 and X^2 are the same or different, each representing an electron attractive group; R^1 and R^2 are the same or different, each representing a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group, and at least one of the groups, R^1 and R^2, is an alkyl group; R^3 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and a ring Z represents a hydrocarbon ring which may have a substituent or a heterocycle which may have a substituent,

which comprises reacting a compound represented by the following formula (IV):


(IV)

wherein X^1, X^2, R^1, R^2, and R^3 have the same meanings as defined above,

with a compound represented by the following formula (V):


(V)

wherein the ring Z has the same meaning as defined above.

9. An organic electroluminescent device, which comprises a pair of electrodes and an organic layer interposed therebetween, wherein the organic layer comprises a compound represented by the formula (I) recited in claim 1.

10. An organic electroluminescent device according to claim 9, wherein the organic layer comprises a light-emitting layer comprising a compound represented by the formula (I).

11. An organic electroluminescent device according to claim 9, wherein the organic layer has (1) a single layer structure composed of a light-emitting layer having at least one function selected from the group consisting of an electron-transportability and a hole-transportability, or (2) a layered structure composed of a layer having at least one function selected from the group

consisting of an electron-transportability and a hole-transportability, and a light-emitting layer.